1	2	3
13.	Integrated Development of Agra-Revitalization and Visitor Management for Taj Mahal Vicinity-East Gate Entry to Taj Mahal	767.00
14.	Celebration of Jhansi Ayurved Festival, 2004	2.50
15.	Investors' Meet at Agra in February, 2006	15.00
	TOTAL	3796.60

Development of tourism in Uttar Pradesh

†285. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any special scheme to develop tourism at Soron and Kaddla Braj in the State of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the outline of this scheme; and

(c) the details of effective steps being taken by Government for implementing this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Identification of new places for promotion of tourism

†286. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the year-wise annual increase in the number of foreign tourists arrived in the country during the last three years;

(b) whether Government are aware that there are still many places in the country which once developed, can attract tourists naturally and provide employment also to the people;

(c) whether Government have identified such places; if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI) : (a) Foreign Tourist arrivals to India during 2003, 2004 and 2005 (estimated) have been 2.73 million, 3.46 million and 3.92 million respectively showing an increase of 14.3%, 26.8% and 13.2% respectively over the previous year.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) As development and promotion of tourist spots/places is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments, in order to assist them in identifying various places of tourist interest, and their systematic development, the Department of Tourism commissioned 20 Year Perspective Plans for various States which, *inter alia,* have identified places for development and also provided an action plan for development of identified places. The reports have been sent to the States/UTs for preparation of their plans accordingly.

Funds for tourism sector

287. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what measures are being taken to identify fresh tourism destinations and widen tourism base in the country so as to enhance tourism activity and generate more income therefrom;

(b) the details in this regard, State-wise; and

(c) the details of financial allocations made for the tourism sector and released during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI) : (a) and (b) Development of tourism is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments/UTs. The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, extends Central financial assistance to the State Governments/Union Territories for development of tourism on the basis of the proposals received from them, subject to availability of funds and *inter-se* priorities.

(c) Plan funds amounting to Rs. 325 crore, Rs. 500 crore and Rs. 786 crore have been allocated for tourism sector during the years 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 respectively. A Statement showing the State-wise tourism projects sanctioned and released during the last three years is enclosed.